

**Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
- Expedited Examining Procedure -  
Examining Group 2854**

**MAIL STOP AF  
89950JLT**

**Customer No. 01333  
Confirmation No. 8137**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Koji Hayashi

LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING PLATE  
PRECURSOR AND PREPARATION  
METHOD FOR PRINTING PLATE

Serial No. 10/544,191

Filed 03 February 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

Group Art Unit: 2854

Examiner: ZIMMERMAN, Joshua D.

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

In response to the FINAL Office Action dated June 13, 2007,  
Applicant requests reconsideration for the reasons that follow.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)**

Claims 12-14, 16, 17, and 19-21 have been rejected as anticipated  
by US Patent 5,908,731 (Leenders et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action argues that Leenders et al describes a  
lithographic printing plate precursor containing a crosslinked product having a  
polymer with a heat decomposable group that is an azo, etc. in the main chain and  
a suitable crosslinking agent. It also argues that the various features of dependent  
Claims 13-14, 16, 17, and 19-21 are described by Leenders et al.

The Final Rejection also argues (sentence bridging pages 2 and 3)  
that Applicant admitted in his previous response that the precursors are “only”